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ABSTRACT

This report compares the ethnicities of residents aged 18 and over, Gavilan students, and high school seniors from the cities of Gilroy, Hollister, and Morgan Hill for 1999-2000. The data was gathered from the 2000 census website, California Department of Education Dataquest website, and the campus MIS data warehouse. Some of the key findings of the report are as follows: (1) Gilroy has the closest congruence of students to non-students; (2) Galvin has proportionately more Native Americans but fewer White, non Hispanic from Hollister; (3) for Morgan Hill African Americans and Latinos are more numerous than expected and White, non-Hispanics less numerous than expected at Live Oak High relative to the city population aged 18 and over; and (4) Asians from Morgan Hill are less numerous than expected and Latinos from Morgan Hill are more numerous than expected at Galvin relative to the city population aged 18 and over. Overall, these differences in that data are explained by stating that a higher proportion of "minority" persons as students and fewer "majority" persons as students. The author concludes that further research should be completed in the form of a community survey. (MZ)

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GAVILAN COLLEGE

Comparative Ethnic Identification of Residents, Gavilan Students, and High School Seniors from Gilroy, Hollister, and Morgan Hill for 1999-2000

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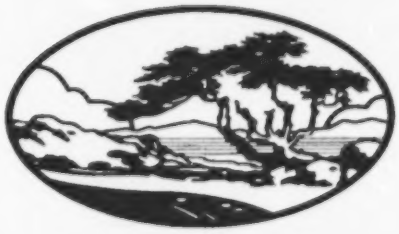

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Summary

Gavilan students and high school seniors from the same cities in general had statistically equivalent ethnic distributions. However, when the comparison included residents aged 18 and over, Gavilan students, and high school seniors from each of the three main cities of the Gavilan District, there are some deviations from the statistical expectation of equal ethnic distributions. In general, it appears that some ethnic groups are more numerous as students at Gavilan and local high schools than would be expected from the local population aged 18 and over. The reasons for these differences are unknown but could include error due to differences in ethnicity coding or differential attraction of certain ethnic groups in different cities to Gavilan college and local high schools.

Introduction

This report, requested by the Gavilan Community College Governing Board, compares the ethnicities of residents aged 18 and over, Gavilan students, and High School Seniors from the cities of Gilroy, Hollister, and Morgan Hill for 1999-2000. A previous report on Gavilan Performance Indicators (www.gavilan.edu/research/indicators.pdf) conducted a pooled comparison between city residents and Gavilan students from those cities and found a fairly close match with respect to ethnicity. This report differs by adding high school seniors and looking at each city separately.

Methods

Data for residents age 18 and older came from the 2000 Census website. Data for Gavilan students who reside in Gilroy, Hollister, and Morgan Hill came from the campus MIS data warehouse and was extracted with Brio Query 6.2.3.60. Data for Seniors from Gilroy High in Gilroy, San Benito High in Hollister, and Live Oak High in Morgan Hill came from the California Department of Education Dataquest website. Even though more recent data is available, Gavilan and High School student data included enrollments only from the 1999-2000 academic year to compare with Census data, which is only available for 2000. Ethnicity coding differs between these three sources. In particular, Census and Gavilan data had a large number of other or unknown

ethnicities that were not present in the high school data. Congruency of ethnicity proportions between these three groups was tested with a goodness of fit test within each community with the category of "other" excluded. An omnibus test between the 3 categories was performed first and then, if significant, Gavilan students were compared with high school seniors from the same cities.

Results

Gilroy

Ethnic proportions show significant differences between residents aged 18 and over, Gavilan students from Gilroy, and Gilroy High Seniors (X^2 (10) = 46.9, $p < 0.0005$; page 3). Pacific Islanders and African-Americans from Gilroy are more numerous at Gavilan and Pacific Islanders at Gilroy High School are more numerous than expected relative to the city population aged 18 and over. Comparing Gavilan students from Gilroy to Gilroy High seniors found no significant differences in ethnic distributions (X^2 (5) = 4.99, $p = 0.418$).

Hollister

Ethnic proportions show significant differences between residents aged 18 and over, Gavilan students from Hollister, and San Benito High Seniors (X^2 (10) = 23.9, $p = 0.0008$; page 4). White, non-Hispanics from Hollister are less numerous and Native Americans from Hollister are more numerous at Gavilan than expected relative to the city population aged 18 and over. Comparing Gavilan students from Hollister to San Benito High seniors found no significant differences in ethnic distributions (X^2 (5) = 6.90, $p = 0.228$).

Morgan Hill

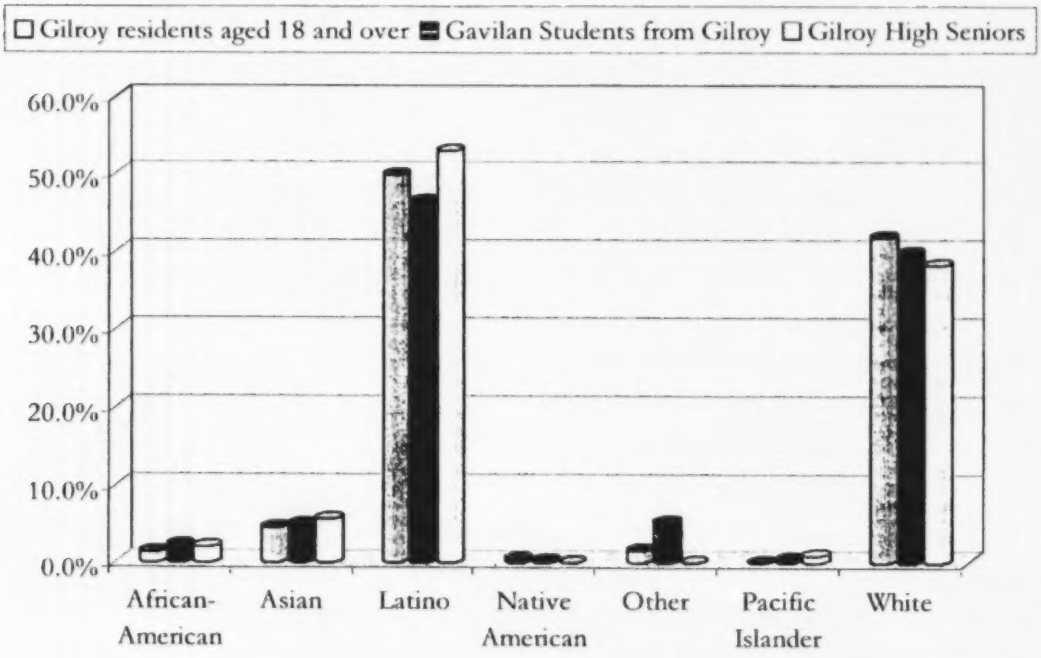
Ethnic proportions show significant differences between residents aged 18 and over, Gavilan students from Morgan Hill, and Live Oak High Seniors (X^2 (10) = 28.2, $p = 0.002$; page 5). African-Americans and Latinos are more numerous than expected and White, non-Hispanics less numerous than expected at Live Oak High relative to the city population aged 18 and over. Asians from Morgan Hill are less numerous than expected and Latinos from Morgan Hill are more numerous

than expected at Gavilan relative to the city population aged 18 and over. Comparing Gavilan students from Morgan Hill to Live Oak High seniors found no significant differences in ethnic distributions (X^2 (5) = 9.28, p = 0.098).

Discussion

While variation in ethnicity coding and missing data reduce the strength of inferences drawn from this data, there does appear to be much congruency between Gavilan students and local high schools. The differences that appear between students and other residents can be summarized as a higher proportion of "minority" persons as students and fewer "majority" persons as students. Gilroy, at the center of the district, has the closest congruence of students to non-students. Gavilan has proportionately more Native Americans but fewer White, non-Hispanics from Hollister. Gavilan has proportionately more Latinos but fewer Asians from Morgan Hill. The differences that do appear could be caused by factors such as error due to persons of unknown ethnicity or differential attraction of certain ethnic groups in different cities to Gavilan and local high schools. If differential attraction is a causal factor, it could be that White, non-Hispanics in the south and Asians in the north are drawn to schools with a higher proportion of their own ethnicity and that Latinos and Native Americans are drawn to Gavilan with its relatively high proportion of these ethnicities. Alternatively, White, non-Hispanics in the south and Asians in the north may be less likely to be students and/or Latinos in the north and Native Americans in the south may be more likely to be students. These explanations may be particularly true in the north where our population participation rate is lowest and educational and employment options are much more abundant. Further research in the form of a community survey could help determine if these findings are due to ethnicity coding differences or differences in attitudes and options.

Ethnicities for 1999-2000 residency and student status



	Gilroy residents aged 18 and over		Gavilan Students from Gilroy		Gilroy High Seniors	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
African-American	402	1.4%	56	2.3%	9	2.2%
Asian	1,269	4.5%	123	5.0%	24	5.7%
Latino	13,947	49.9%	1150	46.6%	221	52.9%
Native American	138	0.5%	10	0.4%	0	0.0%
Other*	474	1.7%	131	5.3%	0	0.0%
Pacific Islander	52	0.2%	14	0.6%	4	1.0%
White	11681	41.8%	986	39.9%	160	38.3%
Total	27,963	100%	2,470	100%	418	100%

* Other includes Unknown for Gavilan students

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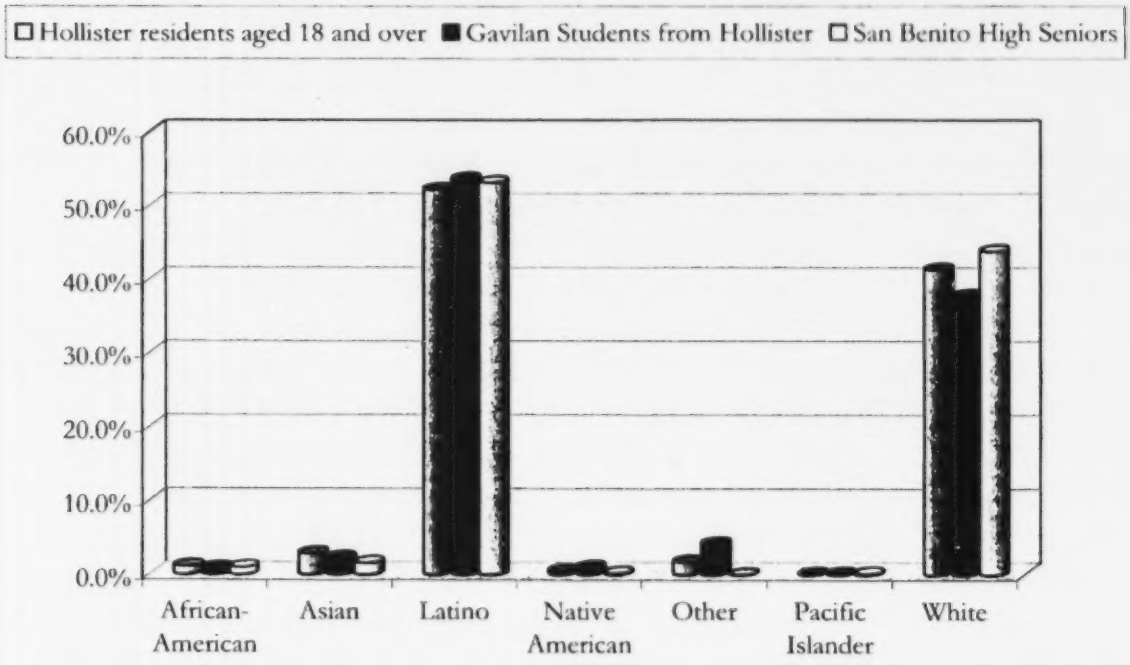
Ethnicities for 1999-2000 residency and student status



	Hollister residents aged 18 and over		Gavilan Students from Hollister		San Benito High Seniors	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
African-American	263	1.2%	21	0.9%	5	1.0%
Asian	651	2.9%	53	2.3%	8	1.6%
Latino	11742	52.2%	1222	53.6%	262	53.1%
Native American	117	0.5%	23	1.0%	1	0.2%
Other*	402	1.8%	96	4.2%	0	0.0%
Pacific Islander	27	0.1%	4	0.2%	1	0.2%
White	9297	41.3%	861	37.8%	216	43.8%
Total	22,499	100%	2,280	100%	493	100%

* Other includes Unknown for Gavilan students

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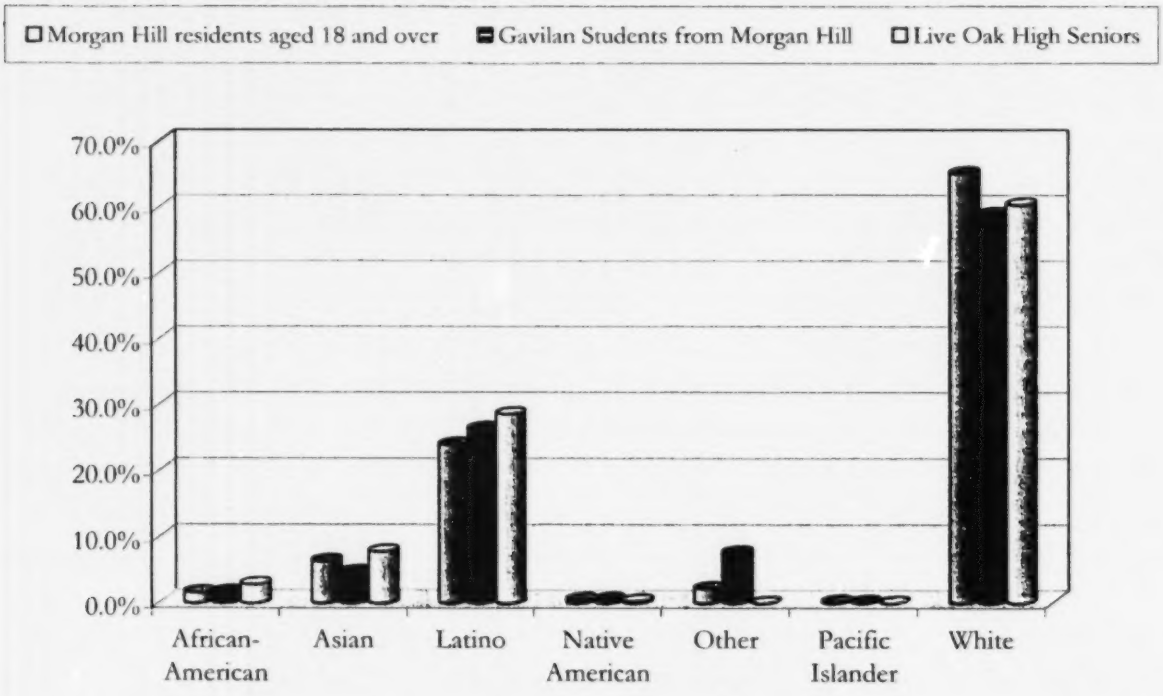
Ethnicities for 1999-2000 residency and student status



	Morgan Hill residents aged 18 and over		Gavilan Students from Morgan Hill		Live Oak High Seniors	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
African-American	367	1.6%	22	1.7%	17	2.8%
Asian	1482	6.4%	62	4.7%	47	7.8%
Latino	5593	24.0%	349	26.4%	172	28.6%
Native American	117	0.5%	7	0.5%	2	0.3%
Other*	519	2.2%	101	7.6%	0	0.0%
Pacific Islander	41	0.2%	2	0.2%	0	0.0%
White	15191	65.2%	780	59.0%	363	60.4%
Total	23,310	100%	1,323	100%	601	100%

* Other includes Unknown for Gavilan students

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